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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/051,272

Applicant(s)

AU, I. S.

Examiner

Art Unit

Cameron Saadat

3713

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 7/21/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 1/18/2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
**XUAN M. THAI**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**

TC 3700

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Howard Silverman on May 26, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claims 1-8 and 13-14 (CANCELLED)

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Claims 9-12 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach the specific combination of elements as claimed in independent claim 9. In particular the prior art fails to teach *inter alia*: the combination of elements specifically claimed including a fishing pole device including a rod member and a hook member; a plurality of objects having a plurality of object contact elements wherein two or more of the object contact elements are connected to one another to form a contact pattern which serves to uniquely identify each object; wherein the objects include an aperture configured to accept engagement of the hook member; an identification member associated with the hook member, wherein the identification member includes a plurality of member contact elements configured such that at least two of the member contact elements come into electrical contact

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with at least two of the object contact elements when the hook member is placed in physical contact with one of the objects; and a processing unit associated with the fishing pole, wherein the processing unit is in direct electrical contact with the identification member, the processing unit being capable of detecting the object contact pattern in physical contact with the identification member to identify the particular object in physical contact with the hook member. The closest prior art of record discloses an identification member to identify various objects, however does not teach, suggest, or motivate one of ordinary skill to implement the identification member in combination with a fishing pole device including a rod member and hook member.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### *Conclusion*

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Hanzawa (USPN 5,127,869) – discloses a toy that provides audio data in response to detection of a group of electrical contacts.

Yamasaki et al. (USPN 6,659,836) – disclose a learning device that identifies objects on a mounting board.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cameron Saadat whose telephone number is (571) 272-4443.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 - 6:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xuan Thai can be reached on (571) 272-7147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cameron Saadat  
May 26, 2005



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**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**

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